

REMARKS

The Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for indicating that Claims 1-3 are in a condition for allowance.

Rejection Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §101 Obviousness-type Double Patenting

The Examiner has rejected Claims 4 and 5 as allegedly being unpatentable over Claims 1, 2 and 11 of U.S. Patent 6,545,182 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting under 35 U.S.C. §101. The Applicant's hereby enclose a 37 CFR § 1.130 affidavit in which the term of the present patent application which may exceed that of U.S. Patent 6,545,182 has been disclaimed. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that the terminal disclaimer overcomes the grounds underlying this rejection and respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §101 obviousness-type double patenting rejection for Claims 4 and 5.

The Examiner has objected to Claim 6 as allegedly being dependent on a rejected claim. For the reason indicated above, this objection is now considered moot. The Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 6 is now in proper format and request withdrawal of the 37 C.F.R. §1.75 objection.

CONCLUSION

In light of the remarks herein, the Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are now in condition for allowance and respectfully request the Examiner to issue a Notice to that effect. Should the Examiner have any questions, he is invited to call the undersigned agent. Please use Deposit Account 01-0885 for the payment of the extension fees or any other fees due in connection with the current response.

Respectfully submitted,



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